

Message Text

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EUR FOR RPM AND RPE, RPM ALSO FOR AMB. BENNETT

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, NATO, XH
SUBJECT: 1978 NATO ECONOMIC COLLOQUIUM AND THE ALLIANCE
STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

REFS:(A)STATE 126098, (B)STATE 132521, (C)USNATO 4706,
(D)STATE 131480, (E)USNATO 4994

SUMMARY: ECONADS JUNE 2 MEETING DID NOT GIVE FINAL
RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 1978 NATO ECONOMIC COLLOQUIUM,
AN ANNUAL "UNCLASSIFIED" DISCUSSION BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL
EXPERTS. CHAIRMAN BILLY WAS UNDER ORDERS TO AVOID
ANY TOPIC POSSIBLY RELATED TO AREA ALSO COVERED BY
ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS. BILLY'S
SUPERVISOR, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR POLITICAL
AFFAIRS JUNG, FELT TOPICS PREFERRED BY ECONADS, EAST-
WEST TRADE OR SOVIET ECONOMIC GROWTH, WOULD BE A
DUPLICATION OF AND IN POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH NAC/SPC ACTI-
VITY IN THIS FIELD. FIRM ECONADS SUPPORT FOR US
PREFERENCES (AND SUBSEQUENT DIRECT APPROACHES BY
GERMANY ECONAD AND US POLAD) HAVE THUS FAR NOT CHANGED
JUNG'S MIND. WE WILL REVERT TO QUESTION AT JUNE 13
SPC. END SUMMARY.

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1. SUBSEQUENT TO ISSUANCE OF AGENDA FOR JUNE 9
ECONADS MEETING, JUNG INSTRUCTED ECONADS CHAIRMAN BILLY
TO WITHDRAW THE TWO FRONT-RUNNER COLLOQUIUM TOPICS,
DEVELOPMENT OF EAST-WEST TRADE THROUGH 1985 AND SOVIET
ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH 1985, AS INAPPROPRIATE AND
DUPLICATIVE OF THE ALLIANCE STUDY MANDATED BY THE
LONDON NATO SUMMIT. INTER ALIA, HE FEARED THAT PRESS

COVERAGE OF THE COLLOQUIUM MIGHT ERRONEOUSLY PORTRAY RESULTS OF SYMPOSIUM DISCUSSIONS AS OFFICIAL ALLIED VIEWS. BILLY FORWARDED US OF THIS DEVELOPMENT AND WE SOUGHT, THROUGH CONTACT WITH JUNG AND OTHERS, TO SECURE RECONSIDERATION. AT JUNE 9 ECONADS MEETING BILLY NEVERTHELESS REQUESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE CONSIDER SHIFT TO A COLLOQUIUM TOPIC UNRELATED TO THE ALLIANCE STUDY.

2. LED BY THE GERMAN REP (DAASE), ONE ECONAD AFTER THE OTHER PROTESTED JUNG'S FIAT AS UNREASONABLE AND OUT OF KEEPING WITH TRADITIONAL PURPOSE OF THE COLLOQUIA: OPEN DISCUSSION OF TOPICAL SOV/EE (OR E/W) ECONOMIC ISSUES BY RECOGNIZED NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS. WE REITERATED US PREFERENCE FOR E/W TRADE TOPIC AND OUR VIEW THAT COLLOQUIUM DISCUSSION COULD PROVE TO BE A USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO (RATHER THAN DUPLICATION OF) MORE FORMAL STUDY WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. CERTAINLY, COLLOQUIUM SHOULD NOT BE BILLED AS ELEMENT OF THE ALLIANCE STUDY, AND ALLIES WERE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT ALL, OR EVEN ANY, OF COLLOQUIUM VIEWS. UK REP (HULSE) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES "WOULD FIND IT STRANGE" IF THE COLLOQUIUM DID NOT DEAL WITH EMINENTLY TOPICAL EAST-WEST ECONOMIC ISSUES, TO WHICH ATTENTION HAD BEEN DRAWN BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPEECH TO THE NATO SUMMIT. DANISH AND NORWEGIANS, HERETOFORE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, ALSO SUPPORTED US PREFERENCE FOR E/W TRADE TOPIC.

3. GERMAN REP ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FINAL DECISION ON A COLLOQUIUM TOPIC WAS THE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY

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OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, BUT ADDED THAT IT WAS THE COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE ITS ADVICE: THAT ADVICE SEEMED QUITE CLEAR IN THIS INSTANCE AND HE CALLED ON BILLY TO BRING IT TO JUNG'S ATTENTION BEFORE A DECISION WERE TAKEN. WE INDICATED US SPC REP WOULD MOST PROBABLY REVERT TO THE COLLOQUIUM/ ALLIANCE STUDY RELATIONSHIP AT THE JUNE 13 SPC MEETING.

4. AFTER MEETING GERMAN REP PHONED JUNG AND DISCUSSED IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUE DETAILS OF ECONADS DISCUSSION. JUNG WAS UNBENDING, HOWEVER. SUBSEQUENT APPROACH BY US POLAD (IN WHICH WE STRESSED INSTRUCTED NATURE OF MISSION'S VIEWS) ALSO BROUGHT NO CHANGE IN HIS POSITION, BUT WE CONFIRMED EARLIER NOTICE THAT WE WOULD DEAL FURTHER WITH THE QUESTION AT THE JUNE 13 MEETING.

5. COMMENT: JUNG'S PERSONAL INTRANSIGENCE ON THIS ISSUE REFLECTS HIS OFTEN UREASONED OPPOSITION TO STRONG MAJORITY VIEWS. HOWEVER, IF HE PERSISTS IN THIS CASE

WE WILL JOIN OTHERS IN SEEKING TO HAVE SGLUNS OVERRULE
HIM. STREATOR

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